

MAY 15 1922 ✓

CAST

~~Atlantida~~ Atlantida.

A small mountain stream runs through the grotto and it has been swelled by the torrents of rain. A Man's body comes sweep-

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ing down the stream. The travelers rescue him and he tells them of the kingdom of Antinea, from which he comes. He offers to guide his saviors to it.

Under the conduct of Targui, the man who was rescued, they come to a magic palace, the sort dreamed of in "Thousand and One Nights." Luxuriant trees are everywhere--palms, almonds, lemons and oranges. A tremendous cascade of water pours into a blue lake. Unusual and brilliant birds are singing. The palace itself is a marvel of color and design.

As they walk through the main hall of the palace they see sixty mummies preserved in an unknown metal. These are the sixty explorers who previously visited the palace. Antinea liked to preserve the memories of her lovers.

When Antinea sees Morhange, her heart for the first time vibrates with emotion. She loves him. And she cannot understand why the pious Captain should repulse her advances. She has turned Saint-Avit over to the supervision of her secretary, Tanit-Zerga. But he thinks only of the Queen and her enticing beauty. He is jealous of the regard that she has shown for the Captain.

The Queen uses his jealousy to drive him into a mad frenzy of desire. She makes promises. And Saint-Avit, with a knife that she hands him, stabs his friend as he sleeps.

His remorse comes quickly. His love turns to hate. He wants to kill the queen. But her guards surprise him as he seeks to enter her chamber and he flees. The Secretary Tanit-Zerga, who has loved him secretly, hides him, and helps him to escape. Together they go over the desert on a swift camel. The camel dies. Tanot-Zerga, unaccustomed to hardship, is unable to continue further. She dies in Saint-Avit's arms. He is unconscious, overcome with starvation and thirst, when he is picked up by a French military expedition. They bring him to Has si Inifel, a Southern outpost of Algeria. He is ill for months, his physical suffering being aggravated by the thought of killing his

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comrade. At last the doctors declare him fit for service. But he has no desire for service. His sole thought is of Antinea. She is his sole desire. He tells two brother officers of his adventure. And one night in the desert he sees Cegheir-ben-Cheikh, the faithful attendant of the Queen.

The three officers, drawn by some inward magic, decide to go with the attendant to Antinea's kingdom. A Great happiness fills them. They laugh and cry by turns. "You will see! You will see!" the lieutenant cries. And so they take the desert trail to Antinea, Love and perhaps death.

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MAY 15 1922

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